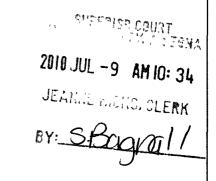
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YAVAPAI COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE JOSEPH C. BUTNER SBN 005229 DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY 255 East Gurley Street Prescott, AZ 86301 Telephone: 928-771-3344 ycao@co.yavapai.az.us



## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF STATE OF ARIZONA

### IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

| CITATE OF A DIGONA | M2000        |
|--------------------|--------------|
| STATE OF ARIZONA,  | CR 2008-1339 |

Plaintiff, The Honorable Warren R. Darrow

STATE'S RESPONSE TO DEFNDANT'S MOTION FOR REEXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS OF RELEASE

# STEVEN CARROLL DEMOCKER,

Defendant.

The State of Arizona, by and through Sheila Sullivan Polk, Yavapai County Attorney, and her deputy undersigned, hereby submits its Response to Defendant's Motion for Reexamination of Conditions of Release. Defendant's Motion for Reexamination of Conditions of Release should be denied because Defendant has failed to offer any material fact not previously considered by Judge Lindberg previously.

#### **ARGUMENT:**

v.

## Defendant's Conditions of Release should not be amended.

Ariz. R. Crim P., Rule 7.4(b) provides that "[a]ny person remaining in custody may move for reexamination of the conditions of release whenever the person's case is transferred to a different court or the motion alleges the existence of material facts not previously presented to the court." The State acknowledges that due to the transfer of this case to a

Office of the Yavapai County Attorney
255 E. Gurley Street, Suite 300
Prescott, AZ 86301
Phone: (928) 771-3344 Facsimile: (928) 771-3110

different court, Defendant has a right to request a reduction in the bond amount. However, it is respectfully requested that this Court defer to Judge Lindberg's judgment on the matter when considering the extensive information previously provided to him.

During December 2008 and January 2009, the Court heard nearly four full days of testimony regarding the State's request to hold Defendant without bond. In addition, the Court twice heard additional testimony and argument regarding the State's evidence as it was presented to the grand jury during the hearings on Defendant's two motions for new finding of probable cause. The Court also heard argument regarding GPS monitoring at a hearing on March 10, 2009.

The Court found that Defendant had the opportunity to commit the crimes based upon Defendant's proximity to the scene, the time frame in which the murder occurred, and Defendant's lack of alibi. After consideration, the Court determined that \$2,500,000.00 cash or security bond was appropriate.

After the ruling was issued, Defendant quickly filed a Motion for Reexamination of Conditions of Release which was denied by the Court without evidentiary hearing on April 30, 2009. Defendant filed another motion to reexamine conditions of release in August, 2009. Hearings were held and the motion was denied November 21, 2009. In December, 2009 Defendant filed yet another motion to reconsider his conditions of release. Hearings were held in January, 2010 and once again the Court denied the defense motion.

After the State dismissed its allegation of the death penalty, on May 28, 2010 the Court modified Defendant's release conditions by reducing the bond amount from \$2,500,000 to \$1,000,000. Note that this decision was made a mere 42 days ago

The State's evidence was fully considered by the Court during the *Simpson* Hearing, the hearings for new finding of probable cause and hearings on Defendant's prior motions to reexamine his conditions of release. It is respectfully submitted that this Court should defer to Judge Lindberg's prior findings.

Alternatively, Defendant can ask for a reexamination of his conditions of release if there are "material facts" which were not previously presented to the Court. A "material fact" is defined as "a fact that is significant or essential to the issue or the matter at hand." *Black's Law Dictionary*, 484 (7<sup>th</sup> abridged ed. 2000).

A new material fact set forth in this motion is that the trial will last longer than originally anticipated due to Judge Lindberg's recent illness and the attendant appointment of an alternate judge to preside over the trial. When considering the severity of the charges (first degree murder), the two month delay does not warrant the reexamination of the conditions of release which were carefully considered by Judge Lindberg previously.

Defendant also claims that dismissal of the death penalty is a new material fact to be considered. This factor was considered by Judge Lindberg when he reduced Defendant's bond from \$2,500,000 to \$1,000,000 on May 28, 2010. It is noted for this Court's consideration that the State dismissed the death penalty allegation at the request of the victims, including Ruth K. and John K. The allegation was not dismissed due to any new or perceived "weakness" in the State's case.

Defendant also claims that he is too tired to meaningfully assist in his own defense due to travel on trial days. This is not a new material fact as contemplated by the statute. Further, Defendant has failed to present any instance where his incarceration has prevented him from meaningfully assisting in his own defense.

Victims Ruth K. and John K. continue to oppose any change in the conditions of release.

Due to the new trial schedule, the YCSO Jail has made arrangements for Defendant to have visitation every Monday from 7:30 a.m. through 9:00 a.m. During the trial schedule under Judge Lindberg, visitation was every other week on the non-trial Tuesdays.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

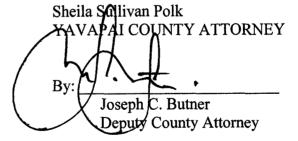
(928) 771-3110

Facsimile:

Phone: (928) 771-3344

After hearing testimony and argument on numerous motions regarding Defendant's release conditions, the strength of the State's case, and evidence regarding Defendant's intent to flee, Judge Lindberg recently determined that \$1,000,000 bail was appropriate. Defendant has failed to present the existence of any "material facts" related to release conditions not previously considered by Judge Lindberg. It is respectfully requested that this Court defer to Judge Lindberg's May 28, 2010 ruling and deny Defendant's most recent Motion for Reexamination of Conditions of Release.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 9th day of July, 2010.



COPIES of the foregoing delivered this 9th day of July, 2010, to:

Honorable Warren R. Darrow Yavapai County Superior Court (hand delivered)

**AND** 

# Office of the Yavapai County Attorney 255 E. Gurley Street, Suite 300 Prescott, AZ 86301 Phone: (928) 771-3344 Facsimile: (928) 771-3110

| 1  | John Sears   |
|----|--|
| 2  | 107 North Cortez Street, Suite 104<br>Prescott, AZ 86301               |
| 3  | Attorney for Defendant (hand delivered)                                |
| 4  | Larry Hammond  |
| 5  | Anne Chapman   |
| 6  | Osborn Maledon, P.A.<br>2929 North Central Ave, 21 <sup>st</sup> Floor |
| 7  | Phoenix, AZ<br>Attorney for Defendant                                  |
| 8  | (hand delivered)   |
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